

Message Text

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TAGS: BGEN, CZ
SUBJ: COMMERCIAL REFILE

TO: MR. DONALD HASFURTHER
U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
248302 CCUS

1. APPRECIATE RECEIPT OF YOUR TELEXES CONCERNING FORTHCOMING CZECHOSLOVAK-U.S. ECONOMIC COUNCIL MEETING. IN A MEETING EARLIER THIS WEEK WITH GAYDECKA AND STASTNY OF THE CHAMBER OF ECONOMY, WE RECEIVED THE IMPRESSION THAT ARRANGEMENTS ARE PROGRESSING EFFECTIVELY AND SMOOTHLY. THE CHAMBER REPRESENTATIVES REALIZE THAT USG WILL NOT BE SENDING REPRESENTATIVES FROM WASHINGTON AND ARE PLEASED THAT AMBASSADOR BYRNE HAS AGREED TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL. THEY PRAISED THE EFFORTS YOU ARE DEVOTING TO PREPARATIONS FOR THE MEETING.

2. THE CHAMBER REPRESENTATIVES STILL HAVE SOME POINTS OF CONCERN, HOWEVER. FIRST, THEY EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT AT WHAT THEY TERMED THE LOW NUMBER OF EXECUTIVES (TWENTY-TWO, INCLUDING ONLY ELEVEN ACTUAL DELEGATES) COMING FROM THE U.S. THEY SAID THEY EXPECTED AROUND FORTY CZECHOSLOVAK BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES AND THEY WERE CONTINUING TO HOPE THAT AT LEAST THIRTY WOULD ATTEND FROM THE U.S.

3. SECOND, IN LINE WITH THEIR WISH FOR MORE U.S.

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PARTICIPANTS, THE CHAMBER REPRESENTATIVES WONDERED WHETHER YOU HAVE ASKED CEDOK TO HOLD SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF HOTEL ROOMS. THEY ASKED WHETHER YOU HAVE RESERVED ACCOMMODATIONS FOR YOUR OWN PERSONNEL AND FOR ANY U.S. BUSINESSMEN COMING TO THE MEETING FROM EUROPEAN OFFICES. THEY HOPED THAT YOU COULD FIRM UP THE NUMBER AND NAMES OF U.S. PARTICIPANTS, INCLUDING WIVES, WITHIN THE NEXT

FEW DAYS.

4. THIRD, THE CZECHOSLOVAK SIDE HAS HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR THE THREE WORKING GROUPS. AFTER OPENING STATEMENTS BY THE CZECHOSLOVAK AND U.S. COCHAIRMAN, THEY EXPECT THE GROUPS TO DEVELOP CONCRETE WAYS, INCLUDING SPECIFIC BUSINESS PROPOSALS, TO EXPAND BUSINESS RELATIONS. ASKED WHETHER WORKING GROUP MEMBERS WOULD BREAK OFF FOR INDIVIDUAL COMPANY-TO-COMPANY DISCUSSIONS (TO PRESERVE PRIVACY OF U.S. FIRMS' PROPOSALS), STASTNY THOUGHT NOT. HE THOUGHT IT BEST THAT GROUPS REMAIN TOGETHER SO THAT COCHAIRMAN COULD KEEP TRACK OF PROCEEDINGS AND SO THAT TAPE RECORDINGS COULD BE MADE OF DISCUSSIONS TO FACILITATE FOLLOW-UP ACTION. WITH THIS FORMAT IN MIND, GAYDECKA AND STASTNY EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR SUMMARIES THEY HAVE RECEIVED CONCERNING U.S. PARTICIPANT INTERESTS, BUT THEY ASKED WHETHER YOU COULD SUPPLY MORE DETAILED INFORMATION WHICH WOULD PERMIT THEM TO PREPARE CZECHOSLOVAK ENTERPRISES FOR THE EXPECTED U.S. PROPOSALS. THEY ALSO INQUIRED WHETHER U.S. MEMBERS OF WORKING GROUPS WOULD BE PREPARED TO SUGGEST METHODS TO IDENTIFY MARKET POTENTIALS IN BOTH COUNTRIES. (NOTE THAT SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION IS PLANNED FOR PLENARY SESSIONS, BUT NOT FOR WORKING GROUP MEETINGS.)

5. SINCE THE CZECHOSLOVAK SIDE HAS LEFT SUNDAY FREE, WE
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WILL PLAN TO HOLD OUR BRIEFING AS YOU SUGGESTED AT 4 P.M., FOLLOWED BY U.S. SECTION MEETING AT 5 P.M., BOTH AT THE EMBASSY UNLESS YOUR MEMBERS WOULD FIND HOTEL MORE CONVENIENT.

6. WE CONFIRM THAT THE AMBASSADOR WILL HOST A BUFFET RECEPTION ON THE EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 11. WE WILL BE IN TOUCH SOON CONCERNING YOUR KIND OFFER TO ASSIST.
BEST REGARDS,

WILLIAM J. WALLER
FIRST SECRETARY
U.S. EMBASSY, PRAGUE.
BYRNE

NOTE BY OC/T: PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEE

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